

U.S. Appl. No. 09/707,726
Atty. Docket No. 99-319

REMARKS

Claims 5-7, 12, 13, 18-20 and 25-28 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 8, 12, 14, 18-20 and 29 being independent. Claims 5, 12, 18, 19, 20, and 28 have been amended. To expedite the prosecution of this case, claims 1-4, 8-11, 14-17, 21-24 and 29 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 5-7, 12, 13, 18-20 and 25-27 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5, 12 and 18-20 have been so-rewritten, and claims 6-7, depend from them. Claim 28, as amended, depends only from claims 25-27. Allowance of all of those claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 12 and 18 (and their dependent claims 6, 7, 12, 19, 20 and 25-27) were objected to for the various informalities noted. In response, Applicant has amended those claims to recite "δ(i)" instead of "* (i)", and has amended the Specification in the same fashion. Removal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 8, 14, 21 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,747,953 (Qureshi et al). Claims 2, 9, 15 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious from Qureshi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,961 (Subbiah et al). Claims 3, 10, 16 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as from Qureshi in view of "Integrated Services Digital Networks," a publication of Helgert. Claims 4, 11, 17 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious from Qureshi in view of "Dial Control Management Information Base Using SMI v2," a

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publication of RFC 2128. Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Qureshi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,604,075 (Brown). The cancellation of those claims obviates these rejections.

Accordingly, all remaining claims are allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

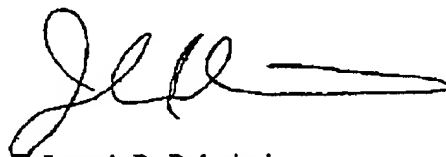
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and passage to issue of the present application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 07-2347. If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above is required, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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